

Message Text

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ACTION CPR-01

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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3522

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

UNCLAS KABUL 4761

USIAC

FOR S/CPR A NEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ON BICENTENNIAL SPACE PROGRAM

FOR INA AND IOP

1. KABUL CP ENVISIONS MULTI-FACETED PROGRAM "FROM NATIONHOOD TO THE STARS " AS MAJOR EFFORT DURING BI-CENTENNIAL YEAR (OBJECTIVE V, PROJECT A (AF03). ORIGINALLY ANTICIPATED TIMING OF PROGRAM WAS LATE SPRING (JUNE-JULY) 1976. HOWEVER NEW ELEMENT HAS ENTERED PICTURE MAKING IT DESIRABLE MOVE UP PROGRAM TO MID-SEPTEMBER, IF POSSIBLE.

2. BERT KLINEBURGER, CHAIRMAN OF THE HUNTING AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE TO PEOPLE SPORTS COMMITTEE INC. CURRENTLY IN KABUL AND HAS INFORMED ME OF PLANS TO BRING TWO ASTRONAUTS TO KABUL IN MID-SEPTEMBER. TRIP WOULD BE UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF SPORTS COMMITTEE WHICH WOULD ALSO BEAR COSTS. WOULD BE SIMILAR TO TRIP TO AFRICA LAST YEAR SPONSORED BY SAME GROUP. KLINEBURGER ADVISES TRIP WOULD ALSO INCLUDE NEPAL AND BHUTAN.

3. KLINEBURGER SAID HE HAS NOT BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DR. MILTON, PRESIDENT OF SPORTS COMMITTEE, FOR SEVERAL WEEKS AND HENCE DID NOT HAVE UP-TO-DATE STATUS REPORT RE PLANNING FOR TRIP.

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AND COULD NOT SUPPLY SPECIFIC DATES. IN ADDITION TO

VISIT OF ASTRONAUTS SPORTS COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED MAKE PRESENTATION OF AS YET UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT AND TYPE SPORTS EQUIPMENT TO AFGHAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.

4. IF ASTRONAUT VISIT PLANNED AND DOES TAKE PLACE AS KLINEBURGER ANTICIPATES, APPEARS LOGICAL TO US TO MOVE UP PLANNING FOR OTHER COMPONENTS OUR SPACE PROJECTS TO COINCIDE WITH VISIT. SPECIFICALLY: A) WE WOULD HOPE THAT AN EXHIBIT CONSISTING OF SPACE AND SPACE RELATED HARDWARE, ARTIFACTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS COULD BE MOUNTED FOR OPENING DURING ASTRONAUT VISIT AND WITH THEIR PARTICIPATION. B) PLAN TO OPEN FESTIVAL OF FILMS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF AMERICAN SPACE ACTIVITIES DURING VISIT. FESTIVAL WOULD BEGIN TOWARD END OF VISIT AND RUN BEYOND, CULMINATING WITH SHOWING OF FEATURE FILM "2001". 3) WILL REQUEST ASTRONAUTS GIVE LECTURE ON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN SPACE TO HIGH LEVEL TARGET AUDIENCE WHICH WILL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE RESTRICTED TO UNIVERSITY SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL.

5. KLINEBURGER UNCERTAIN WHICH ASTRONAUTS WILL BE MAKING TRIP. IF PARTICIPATION NOT FIXED, POST WOULD PREFER COL. STUART ROOSA, WHO WE UNDERSTAND IS ACTIVE IN PEOPLE TO PEOPLE PROGRAM, PLUS ONE APOLLO-SOYUZ ASTRONAUT. PARTICIPATION BY APOLLO-SOYUZ ASTRONAUT WOULD OBVIOUSLY INCREASE IMPACT GIVEN PROXIMITY PARTNER IN THAT SPACE VENTURE. IF APOLLO-SOYUZ ASTRONAUT NOT AVAILABLE, REQUEST ONE OF "SKYLAB" PARTICIPANTS.

6. WE RECOGNIZE TIME FACTOR DIFFICULT. FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW WOULD PREFER VISIT AND RELATED PROGRAMS TO TAKE PLACE AFTER FIRST WEEK OCTOBER NOT ONLY BECAUSE MORE LEAD TIME WOULD ENABLE DEVELOP BETTER PROGRAM, BUT ALSO BECAUSE AMBASSADOR WILL BE IN WASHINGTON UNTIL ABOUT FIRST OF OCTOBER. HIS PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM WOULD BE MOST DESIRABLE AND USEFUL. HOWEVER IF VISIT OF ASTRONAUTS POSSIBLE ONLY DURING MID-SEPTEMBER TIME FRAME WE PREPARED MOUNT MAJOR EFFORT TO MAKE PROGRAM A SUCCESS. WE WOULD HOPE FOR LIKE EFFORT AND UNDERSTANDING FROM AGENCY.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: A) AGENCY CONTACT DR. MILTON IN NEW YORK TO DETERMINE I) IF ABOVE INFORMATION WE HAVE ON TRIP IS CORRECT; II) INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF LATER TIMING; III) UNCLASSIFIED

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:COORDINATE AND INFORM US OF NEEDS AND WISHES THE GROUP WILL HAVE DURING VISIT. B) AGENCY PROCURE SPACE ARTIFACTS AND RELATED PHOTOGRAPHS FOR EXHIBIT. C) ADVISE AVAILABILITY AND COSTS OF 35 MM PRINT "2001" FOR SHOWING COMMERCIAL THEATER FOR I) COMMERCIAL AND II) NON-COMMERCIAL (INVITATIONAL) SHOWING. IS 16MM PRINT AVAILABLE AND WHAT IS COST? D) ADVISE TITLES AND COST DOCUMENTARY SPACE FILMS NOT ON CURRENT POST FILM

INVENTORY THAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR USE SPACE FILM
FESTIVAL. FYI CONTEMPLATE ALL SHOWINGS AMERICAN CENTER
THEATER WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION FEATURE FILM "2001".
ALSO, WILL TRY PLACE FILMS AT UNIVERSITY. E) OBTAIN
NECESSARY NASA CLEARANCES FOR ASTRONAUT PARTICIPATION IN
OUTLINED ACTIVITIES.

8. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN REVIEWED WITH AND HAS CONCURRENCE
OF COUNTRY TEAM.
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